

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SCCT-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 SY-05 /078 W

----- 040199

R 061615Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6754

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BELFAST

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DUBLIN 804

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, EI

SUBJECT: BOMBS PLACED IN LIMERICK

1. RADIO MORNING MAY 5 REPORTS DISCOVERY IN THREE LIMERICK CITY HOTELS OF BOMBS COMPOSED OF EXPLOSIVES AND LARGE QUANTITIES OF GASOLINE. HOTEL STAFF FOUND ONE BOMB, AND POLICE FOUND OTHERS AFTER RECEIVING A VAGUE WARNING BY TELEPHONE. COMMENTATORS NATURALLY SPECULATE THAT BOMBS MAY HAVE BEEN AN ATTEMPT TO CREATE A DIVERSION WHILE BRIDGET DUGDALE WAS RESCUED FROM A NEARBY JAIL. SHE IS BEST KNOWN OF FEMALE PRISONERS CONNECTED TO PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN/IRA AND HAS RECENTLY BEEN ON HUNGER STRIKE. REPUBLIC HAS NO TOP-SECURITY FEMALE PRISON, AND LIMERICK JAIL MAY SEEM A RELEVANTLY SOFT TARGET. MALE PROVOS HAVE MADE REPEATED, AND SOMETIMES SUCCESSFUL, ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE FROM THEIR PORTLAOISE PRISON DESPITE INTENSIVE SECURITY. IN ANY EVENT, HOWEVER, NO ESCAPE ATTEMPT HAS YET BEEN MADE FOR DUGDALE.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH PROVOS HAVE APPARENTLY DENIED RESPONSIBILITY, THIS INCIDENT DOES AT FIRST GLANCE HAVE THE MARKS OF THEIR EFFORTS. DUGDALE HAS LONG BEEN AN OBVIOUS CANDIDATE FOR JAIL BREAK, AND THE ADVANCE WARNING IS AN IRA TRADEMARK. (PROTESTANT TERRORISTS HAVE USUALLY OMITTED WARNINGS, AS IN THE CASE OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DUBLIN BOMBINGS A YEAR AGO.) WARNING OR NOT, THE LIMERICK BOMBS

COULD HAVE CAUSED VERY SERIOUS TROUBLE, AND THEY BRING ONE STEP
CLOSER THE OPEN IRA VIOLENCE THAT GOI HAS LONG FEARED WOULD SPREAD
INTO REPUBLIC.
REND AHL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PARAMILITARY FORCES, PRISONERS RELEASE, BOMBINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DUBLIN00804
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750158-1087
From: DUBLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750574/aaaacqag.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <05 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BOMBS PLACED IN LIMERICK
TAGS: PINS, EI, (DUGDALE, BRIDGET)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006